

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINGST 03236 210528Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 DHA-02 ORM-02 IO-13 /082 W
-----022104 210531Z /14/40

R 172045Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5880
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 3236

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, JM, CI, US
SUBJECT: CHILEAN COMMUNIST SPEAKS OUT IN KINGSTON TRANSIT LOUNGE

1. LUIS CORVALAN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CHILEAN COMMUNIST PARTY, PASSED THROUGH KINGSTON ON JUNE 12 ENROUTE FROM HAVANA TO CARACAS. DURING HIS TWO-HOUR STAY IN THE TRANSIT LOUNGE, CORVALAN HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO THE PRESS. ACCORDING TO "THE GLEANER" OF JUNE 14, CORVALAN URGED THE UNITED STATES TO WITHDRAW THE CIA FROM CHILE AND TO END SUPPORT OF THE "FASCIST REGIME" OF PRESIDENT PINOCHET. CORVALAN SAID THAT HE HAS AN OPEN MIND ABOUT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, BUT BELIEVES THAT THE VIGOROUS COMMITMENT TO THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH WAS EVIDENT IN LAST YEAR'S PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN HAS WANED. HE ADDED THAT WHILE THE PRESIDENT THEN CONDEMNED "FASCIST INFRINGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS" HE NOW OPPOSES VIOLATIONS IN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS ACCOUNT, CORVALAN WAS MET AT THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KINGST 03236 210528Z

AIRPORT BY CUBAN AMBASSADOR RAMON PEZ FERRO, JAMAICAN HOUSING MINISTER TONY SPAULDING, MINING MINISTER DUDLEY THOMPSON AND BY TREVOR MUNROE, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE WORKERS LIBERATION LEAGUE.

2. CORVALAN'S STOP-OVER ALSO ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION OF THE JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT'S INFORMATION ORGAN, THE AGENCY

FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION (API). API FOR REASONS NOT ALTOGETHER CLEAR PUT OUT TWO RELEASES ON CORVALAN; NEITHER MADE ANY DIRECT REFERENCE TO THE UNITED STATES ALTHOUGH WE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN FORGOTTEN. THE FIRST RELEASE COMMENTED BRIEFLY ON THE CHILEAN COMMUNIST'S CAREER AND THEN LAUNCHED INTO A SERIES OF QUOTES IDENTIFYING JAMAICA WITH THOSE OPPOSED TO THE PINOCHET GOVERNMENT. CORVALAN REPORTEDLY SAID THAT HE HAD LONG LOOKED FORWARD TO VISITING JAMAICA IN ORDER TO EXPRESS "THE GRATITUDE OF THE PATRIOTIC FORCES IN CHILE FOR THE SYMPATHY AND SOLIDARITY" SHOWN BY THE JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE, ANF FOR JAMAICA'S "STAND AGAINST THE INFRINGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE". AFTER LAUDING FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER DUDLEY THOMPSON FOR HIS STAND AT THE OAS CONFERENCE IN CHILE LAST YEAR, CORVALAN SAID, "THE CHILEAN PEOPLE ARE CONVINCED THAT THE JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT, WORKERS, FARMERS, YOUTH, INTELLECTUALS, ARE WITH US AND SHARE OUR STRUGGLES."

3. THE SECOND API RELEASE DEALT WITH THE INIQUITIES OF THE PINOCHET GOVERNMENT, AND LEFT THE IMPRESSION THAT THE API REPORTER, CARRIED AWAY BY CORVALAN'S ENCOMIUM TO JAMAICA, FORGOT TO INCLUDE A REFERENCE TO THEM IN HIS STORY. THUS, THE SECOND ACCOUNT STRESSED THAT UNDER THE PRESENT CHILEAN GOVERNMENT, 2500 PERSONS HAVE DISAPPEARED "JUST AS IF THEY WERE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KINGST 03236 210528Z

SWALLOWED UP BY THE EARTH." "NOBODY IS SAFE IN CHILE AS LONG AS PINOCHET CAN GET AWAY WITH THE DISAPPEARANCE OF PEOPLE". THE CHILEAN COMMUNIST REPORTEDLY WENT ON TO SAY THAT TIME IS ON THE SIDE OF THOSE OPPOSING PINOCHET, AND SAID THAT MANY WHO HAD INITIALLY WELCOMED THE COUP HAVE JOINED IN OPPOSING IT. HE MADE SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY WHICH HE SAID HAS NOW BEEN DECLARED ILLEGAL.

4. COMMENT: API'S DECISION TO ISSUE ITS RELEASES ON CORVALAN'S STOP-OVER WAS AS UNEXPLAINED, GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE PRESS COVERED THE BRIEF STAY, AS WAS THE APPEARANCE OF TWO RELEASES. WE ASSUME THEY REVEAL A DESIRE BY THE JAMAICANS TO BE SEEN ON THE SIDE OF THE SOCIALISTS -- THUS PRESERVING THEIR OWN CREDENTIALS -- WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ISSUING A VERSION WHICH DID NOT HAVE TO MAKE MENTION OF THE UNITED STATES. WALKING THE TIGHTROPE IS A FULLTIME BUSINESS HERE.
DORRANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMUNISTS, PARTY LEADERS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KINGST03236
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770243-0453, D770218-1092
Format: TEL
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770646/aaaaboed.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fe07fc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2115012
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHILEAN COMMUNIST SPEAKS OUT IN KINGSTON TRANSIT LOUNGE
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, PINT, JM, CI, US, (CORVAAN, LUIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fe07fc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009